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CLAIMS.

- 1 In a computer environment, a method for searching data to locate a portion of said
data identified by a search query, the method comprising:-
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receiving a sequence of two or more data fragments expected to be contained within
said data;
searching the data to locate matches between the data and the respective data
10 fragments; and
identifying a portion of said data from the address of a match with the first data
fragment in the sequence and the address of a match with the last data fragment in
the sequence.
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2 A method according to claim 1, including:-
searching the data to locate the first match between the data and the first data
20 fragment in the sequence;
searching the data to locate the last match between the data and the last data
fragment in the sequence; and
25 identifying a portion of said data between the addresses of said first and said last
match.
3 A method according to claim 1, including:-
searching the data to locate the first match between the data and the first data
30 fragment in the sequence;

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searching the data to locate matches between the data and the or each subsequent data fragment in the sequence;

5 identifying a portion of said data from the address of said first match between the data and the first data fragment to the address of the first match between the data and the last data fragment in the sequence subsequent to at least one match between the data and any intermediate data fragment in the sequence.

10 4 A method according to claim 1, including displaying said data upon a display screen and highlighting said identified portion of data.

5 In a computer environment, a method for searching data to locate a data item within the data, the method comprising:-

15 receiving a search query comprising two or more data fragments contained in sequence in said data item;

20 searching said data to locate matches with the respective data fragments which matches are non-overlapping and in the same sequence as in said search query.

6 In a computer environment, a method for searching a database to locate a data item, the method comprising:-

25 storing two or more data fragments contained in sequence in said data item;

searching the data base to locate the first match with the first data fragment; and

30 searching the database to locate matches with the or each subsequent data fragment, said searching being directed in dependence upon the location(s) in the database of matches with the or each previous data fragment.

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- 7 In a computer environment, a method for searching a database to locate a specific data item, method comprising:-

storing two or more data fragments contained in sequence in said data item;

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searching said database to locate the first match with the first data fragment in said sequence and storing the start address of said first match;

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from the end address within the database at which said first match is located, searching said database to locate the last match with the last data fragment in said sequence and storing the end address of said last match;

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from the said start address of said first match to the start address of said last match, searching said database to locate all matches with the first data fragment in said sequence; and

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for each subsequent data fragment in turn, searching the database from the end address of the first match with the previous fragment to the said start address of said last match of said last fragment to locate all matches with each said subsequent data fragment.

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An apparatus for searching data to locate a portion of said data identified by a search query, the apparatus comprising:-

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input means for receiving a sequence of two or more data fragments;

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control means connected to said input means and said data supply means and operable for searching data made available by the data supply means to locate matches between the data and the respective data fragments, and for registering information identifying a portion of said data from the address of a match between

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the data and the first data fragment in the sequence to the address of a match between the data and the last data fragment in the sequence.

- 5 9 A computer readable medium containing a computer program for rendering a computer operable for searching data to locate a portion of the data identified by a user supplied search query, the program comprising:-
- 10 computer code for enabling the computer to receive a sequence of two or more data fragments;
- computer code for directing the computer to search said data to locate matches between the data and the respective data fragments; and
- 15 computer code for causing the computer to identify a portion of said data from the location in said data of a first match between the data and the first data fragment in said sequence to the location of a match between the data and the last data fragment in the sequence.